

pay our U.N. dues—is perceived as acting as if it is above the law, nations may begin to think “why should we honor our international commitments?” If the U.S. becomes increasingly isolated, our soldiers will face greater, not less, risk.

Such increasing risk is wholly unnecessary. Our Armed Forces are known globally for their strict adherence to international humanitarian law and conventions governing the conduct of a military in wartime. Signing the Rome Treaty would be the clearest indication possible that we are proud of this record, and are working every day to uphold it.

Mr. President, I too am troubled by the precedent of exerting jurisdiction over non-party nationals. While this is a key component of the Treaty which prevents rogue nations from shielding war criminals from the Court’s jurisdiction by refusing to become a party, it could also invite mischief in the future. What if, for example, a dozen states were to join in a treaty that asserts jurisdiction over non-parties for the explicit purpose of targeting the citizens of the United States and its allies? Will the Rome Treaty set a precedent that could make this more likely?

In fact, there is nothing to prevent that from happening today, and it is highly unlikely that such treaties would achieve legitimacy. They would almost certainly not become recognized parts of international law and convention. While it is essential that we do everything possible to protect the rights of American citizens, we also want an effective Court. Indeed, there are almost certainly to be circumstances when we would support ICC jurisdiction over non-party nationals.

Critics argue that the United States should “block” the ICC. They are misinformed. That is not an option. The requisite 60 countries are going to ratify the Treaty, and the Court will have jurisdiction over citizens of non-parties, whether or not the U.S. signs.

The real issue is whether we sign the Treaty and enable the U.S. to continue to play a crucial role in shaping the ICC, ensuring that it serves its intended purpose of prosecuting the most heinous crimes—not the U.S. Air Force pilot who mistakenly bombs the wrong target, a tragic but inevitable consequence of war. It is instructive, for those who raise the specter of political prosecutions, that the Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia—which, like the ICC, the U.S. had a key role in shaping—declined to investigate allegations of war crimes resulting from NATO bombing of Serbia. We will be in a far better position to protect the rights of American citizens if the Court must answer to the U.S. for its actions.

We can sign the Treaty and make clear that if the Court strays from its intended purpose, we will take what steps are needed, from refusing to rat-

ify to withdrawing from the Treaty. I sincerely doubt, however, that will become necessary. A key part of the Court’s ability to function is its legitimacy. As others have said, “the politicization of the Court would quickly end its relevance.”

We all know that it is simply not possible to be part of an international regime and get absolutely everything one wants. Nay sayers can always invent implausible scenarios that pose some risk. The key question is: do the benefits of signing the Rome Treaty and throwing our weight and influence behind it, outweigh the risks? I believe the answer is clearly yes.

Mr. President, the Treaty provides an adequate balance of strength and discretion to warrant signature by the United States. On the one hand, the Court is strong enough to bring war criminals to justice and provide a deterrent against future atrocities. On the other, there are important checks in place to minimize the risks of sham prosecutions of American troops. Yet, without the active participation and support of the United States—the oldest and most powerful democracy on Earth committed to the rule of law—the Court will never realize its potential.

I agreed with President Clinton when he stated that, “nations all around the world who value freedom and tolerance [should] establish a permanent international court to prosecute, with the support of the United Nations Security Council, serious violations of humanitarian law.”

Those words reminded me of the President’s speech at the United Nations six years ago, when he called for an international treaty banning anti-personnel landmines. Two years later, when many of our allies and friends were negotiating such a treaty, the Administration, bowing to the Pentagon, chose to sit on the sidelines. They assumed, wrongly, that without U.S. support the process would run out of steam, and they even tried, at times, to undermine it.

Only in the final days, when the Administration finally realized the mine treaty was going to happen with or without the U.S., did they make several “non-negotiable” demands. Essentially, they said “okay, we will sign the treaty, as long as it does not apply to our landmines.” Predictably, that was rejected. Today, 138 nations have signed that treaty and 101 have ratified, including every NATO member except the United States and Turkey, and every Western Hemisphere nation except the United States and Cuba.

One would have thought we would have learned from that experience. The fact is that the United States can no longer singlehandedly determine whether an international treaty comes into force. If we do not sign the Rome Treaty, there is a strong possibility

that the Court, its prosecutors and judges will develop from the beginning an unsympathetic view towards the United States and its official personnel. That is especially so if we end up opposing the Court and its legitimacy. Do we want a Court that views itself in opposition to the United States? Or do we want a Court whose prosecutors and judges are selected with the influence of the United States, and a Court that must answer to the United States, as its most significant state party, for its actions? The answer should be obvious to anyone.

Mr. President, it is unacceptable that the world’s oldest democracy—the nation whose Bill of Rights was a model for the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the nation that called for the creation of a permanent, international criminal court and did so much to make it a reality, has shrunk from this opportunity. The President should sign the Rome Treaty.

TRIBUTE TO BOY SCOUTS AND GIRL SCOUTS

Mr. L. CHAFEE. Mr. President, it is with great pleasure that I today pay tribute to the accomplishments of the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts of Rhode Island. These fine organizations include an admirable group of young men and women who have distinguished themselves as leaders in their communities.

Since the beginning of this century, the Girls Scouts and Boy Scouts of America have provided thousands of youngsters each year with the opportunity to make friends, explore new ideas, and develop leadership skills, along with a sense of determination, self-reliance, and teamwork.

These awards are presented only to those who possess the qualities that make our nation great: commitment to excellence, hard work, and genuine love for community service. The Silver and Gold Awards represent the highest awards attainable by junior and high school Girl Scouts. Becoming an Eagle Scout is an extraordinary award with which only the finest Boy Scouts are honored. To earn the award—the highest advancement rank in Scouting—a Boy Scout must demonstrate proficiency in the rigorous areas of leadership, service, and outdoor skills.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the recipients of these awards. Their activities are indeed worthy of praise. Their leadership benefits our community and they serve as role models for their peers.

Also, we must not forget the unsung heroes, who continue to devote a large part of their lives to make all this possible. Therefore, I salute the families, Scout leaders and countless others who have given generously of their time and energy in support of Scouting.

It is with great pride that I submit a list of the young men and women of Rhode Island who have earned this award.

Mr. President, I ask that the list be printed the RECORD.

The list of follows:

GIRLS SCOUT SILVER AWARD RECIPIENTS
Barrington, RI: Sarah E. Oberg, Alison Orlando, Shannon Johnston, Sarah Tompkins.
Charlestown, RI: Hillary Gordon.
Chepachet, RI: Margaret Pepper, Rebecca Thurber, Jennifer Tucker.
Coventry, RI: Mandy L. Ponder.
Cranston, RI: Laura R. Gauvin, Tara Tomaselli, Lindsay Wood, Susan Papino, Sarah Watterson.
Exeter, RI: Karissa D'Ambra, Kim McCarthy, Meghan McDermott, Erin Klingensmith.
Foster, RI: Shannon R. Casey.
Glendale, RI: Emily Beauchemin.
Harrisville, RI: Kristin Bowser.
Hope, RI: Meaghan McKenna.
Hope Valley, RI: Jennifer Gregory, Nichole Piacenza.
Kingston, RI: Elizabeth Tarasevich.
Mapleville, RI: Tia Sylvestre, Jessica Wilcox.
Middletown, RI: Kellie Di Palma.
North Kingstown, RI: Kelly-Ann Brooks, Kellie Fitzpatrick, Brittany Kenyon, Elizabeth Mackler, Kelley Barr, Rachel Glidden.
Pascoag, RI: Erin Boucher, Sarah Gautreau, Heather Hopkins, Jennifer Robillard.
Pawtucket, RI: Stephanie Bobola, Emma Locke, Brittany Smith, Allison Arden, Feliscia Facenda, Melissa Perez, Jessica Theroux.
Portsmouth, RI: Rachel Andrews, Laura Cochran, Melissa Baker, Kathryn E. Powell, Sabrina A. Richard.
Wakefield, RI: Lauren Behie, Emily Franco, Kate Danna, Jessica Piemonte.
Warwick, RI: Stephanie Brock, Amanda Miller, Jessica Ogarek, Nicole Patrocelli, Michelle Poirier, Danielle Dufresne, Sarah Pennington.
West Warwick, RI: Kaylin Kurkoski, Alyssa Lavallee, Capria Palmer, Stephanie Danforth.
Woonsocket, RI: Kayla Berard, Erica Laliberte, Melissa Notorango.
Wyoming, RI: Chantal Gagnon.
GIRLS SCOUT GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS
Cranston, RI: Bethany Lavigne, Sarah Lavigne.
East Greenwich, RI: Elissa Carter, Rosanna Longenbaker.
Harrisville, RI: Carissa Leal.
Middletown, RI: Merideth Bonvenuto.
North Providence, RI: Bonnie Bryden, Alison Kolc, Bethany Bader, Laura Di Tommaso.
Pawtucket, RI: Alyssa M. Nunes, Nicole D. Gendron.
Warwick, RI: Amanda Cadden, Jeniece Fairbairn, Sara Berman, Dawn Armitage, Kristen Giza, Kathryn Marseglia, Justine Evans, Carolyn Beagan.
West Warwick, RI: Jennifer L. Malaby.
West Kingston, RI: Audra L. Criscione.
Westerly, RI: Heather Norman, Karen McGarth.

EAGLE SCOUT RECIPIENTS

Ashaway, RI: Steven Derby, Paul Dumas.
Barrington, RI: Chris Browning, Vincent Crossley, Chris Dewhirst, Jr., David Drew, John Dunn, Jr., Daniel Fitzpatrick, Chris Gemp, Chris Josephson, Patrick Kiely, Brian Mullervy, Anthony Principe, Evan Read, Adam Resmini, Timothy Ryan, Robert Speaker.

Blackstone, RI: Daniel Aleksandrowicz.
Bradford, RI: William Briggs, Jr., Thomas Foley.
Bristol, RI: Chris Cameron, Jason DeRobbio, Thomas DuBios, Matthew Frates, John Maisano IV, Timothy Pray.
Charlestown, RI: Christopher Hyer, Jonathan Lyons, David Piermattei, Jr., Thomas Schipritt.
Chepachet, RI: Eric Ahnrad, Donald Gorrie, Jr., Benjamin King.
Clayville, RI: Geoffrey Lemieux.
Coventry, RI: John Ahern, Nicholas Brown, Michael Camera, James MacDonald.
Cranston, RI: Anthony Baccari, Thomas Darrow, Erik Fearing, Peter Gogol, Gregory Johnson, Daniel Kittredge, Donald McNally, Gregory Norigian, Matthew Papino, Michael Parent, Ernest Rheume, Mark Scott II, Marc Sherman, Jonathan Tipton.
Cumberland, RI: Michael DiMeo, Michael Dubois, Timothy Fabrizio, Gregory Hindle, Thomas Parrillo, James Twohey, John Valentine, John Wigmall, Christopher Young.
East Greenwich, RI: Matthew Kazlauskas, Thomas Carbone, Jr., Stuart Fields, Steven Fulks.
Exeter, RI: Warren Halstead III.
Foster, RI: Paul Copp, Robert Schultz, Jr.
Fiskeville, RI: Jonathan Burns.
Glocester, RI: Thomas Cavaliere.
Greene, RI: Steven Autieri, Ryan Hall.
Greenville, RI: Thomas Bowater, Benjamin Folsom, Jason Marrineau, Joseph Stockley.
Harrisville, RI: Davis Jackson, Matthew Kucharski.
Hope Valley, RI: Eben Conopask, John Duell, Nicholas Haberek, Lucas Marland.
Jamestown, RI: Thomas Kelly, Joshua Shea.
Johnston, RI: Jason Cantwell, Geoffrey Garzone, Christopher Lowrey, Anthony Pezza, Michael Wilusz.
Kingston, RI: Robert Dettman, Travis Morrello.
Lincoln, RI: Bradford Avenia, Daniel Maynard, Jonathan Toft.
Manville, RI: Peter Rernaud.
Middletown, RI: John Greeley, Andrew Gustafson, Jay Parker, Jr., Alexander Schwarzenberg, Matthew Sullivan, David Tungett.
Newport, RI: Jason Kowrach, James Ross.
North Kingstown, RI: Christopher Nannig, David Piehler, Jason Simeone.
North Providence, RI: Adam Andolfo, Michael Chatwin, Jr., Matthew Konicki.
North Scituate, RI: Alan Campbell, Corey Charest, Jared Leduc, Jason Otto, Stephen Vigliotti.
North Smithfield, RI: Keith Gilmore.
Pawtucket, RI: Brian Gendreau, Peter Blair, Nicholas Cetola, Eric Frati, Christopher Gojcz, Benjamin Sweigart, Alejandro Tobon.
Portsmouth, RI: Mark Dragicevich, James Magrath, Paul Myslinski, Richard Quintal, John Silvia III, Adam Tucker.
Providence, RI: Ashley Oneal, Matthew Dorfman, Jonathan Goulet, Matthew Lynch, John Riley, Matthew Salisbury, Andrew Sawtelle, Stephen Winiarski.
Riverside, RI: Andrew Hurd, William Lange, Phillip Olson, Chris Paiva.
Rumford, RI: Jesse Crichton, Chris Jamison.
Smithfield, RI: Charles Ashworth, Brian Twohey, Gerard Lariviere II.
Wakefield, RI: Paul Ayers IV, Joshua Honeyman, Joshua Lamothe, Joshua Rosen, Wyatt Messinger.
Warren, RI: Jonathan Faris, William Kemp IV.
Warwick, RI: Christopher Baker, Richard Agajanian III, Kenneth Arpin, Trevor Byrne-

Smith, James Carolan III, Robert Chace III, Jason Christensen, Michael Dean, Timothy Goodwin, Michael Havican, Eric Hayes, Gregory Hughes, Aaron Hughes, Peter Izzi, Thomas Kelley, Daniel Linden, Jeffrey Machado, Robert MacNaught, John Mendonsa.
Westerly, RI: Jonathan Martin, Seth Merkel.
West Greenwich, RI: Jeffrey Bowen.
West Kingston, RI: Joshua McCaughey.
West Warwick, RI: Eric Calcagni, Craig Flanagan, Daniel Flynn, Warrick Monahan, Chuck Moore.
Wood River Junction, RI: Timothy Brusseau, Scott Morey.
Woonsocket, RI: Michael Minot, Matthew Piette, Matthew Soucy, Gary Turner.
Wyoming, RI: Stetson Lee.

PERMANENT RESIDENCY FOR LIBERIANS

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I rise tonight to express my deep disappointment that this final package does not include a provision that allows Liberian nationals living in this country to adjust to permanent residency.

As I have told this body many times, approximately 10,000 Liberians fled to the United States beginning in 1989 when their country became engulfed in a civil war. In 1991, Attorney General Barr granted Liberians Temporary Protected Status (TPS) and renewed it in 1992. Under the Clinton administration, Attorney General Reno continued to renew TPS for Liberians on an annual basis until last year when she granted Deferred Enforced Departure. DED was renewed again this year.

While Liberians can now legally live in the United States for another year, it does not change the fact that they have lived in limbo for almost a decade. The Liberians have lived in a "protected status" longer than any other group in the history of this country. These individuals have played by the rules. From the beginning, they have always lived in this country legally. They have established careers, opened businesses, bought homes, had American-born children, and contributed to our communities. Yet, they are unable to enjoy the basic rights and privileges of U.S. citizenship. These people deserve better.

For several years I have been working to see that the Liberians receive the justice they deserve. In March 1999, I introduced S. 656, the Liberian Refugee Immigration Fairness Act which would allow Liberian nationals who had received TPS to adjust to permanent residency. For almost two years I have been unable to convince my colleagues to hold a hearing, debate this issue on the floor, or pass the bill. I did everything I believed was necessary to garner support for this legislation. I spoke on the floor, I wrote "Dear Colleagues", I gathered cosponsors on both sides of the aisle, I spoke personally with the leadership of both parties and the White House. Despite these efforts, the plight of the Liberians has